

1. A method of securely transferring data having a corresponding equivalent
monetary value in a communications system including a first device having a first set of
data encoded thereon, a second device having a second set of data thereon, and a third
device having a third set of data encoded thereon, the method comprising the steps of:
sending a request to perform a transaction from the first device to the second
device;
retrieving the first set of data from the first device;
transmitting the first set of data from the first device to the third device;
comparing the first set of data to the third set of data for verification purposes;
transmitting the data from the second device to the third device; and
transmitting an instruction from the third device to the second device whereby the
second device completes the transaction request according to a predetermined process.

2. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the first device is a medium
capable of storing data for retrieval by a disk drive.

3. A method as recited in claim 2 whereby the communications link is the
Internet network.

4. A system for conducting secure transactions over a network, comprising:
a secure device controlled by a consumer, wherein said secure device comprises
data read and transmitted over the network by a computer device;

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4 a second device having a transaction data set, wherein the second device receives
the data from the secure device and forwards the data and a portion of the transaction data
6 over the network;

an authentication device, wherein said authentication device verifies the data
8 originating from the secure device and the portion of the transaction data set originating
from the second device, and forwards via the network an authorization message to the
10 second device for completion of the secure payment transaction.

5. The system of claim 4, wherein the data is encrypted.

6. The system of claim 4, wherein the transaction data set is encrypted.

7. The system of claim 4, wherein the authorization message is encrypted.

8. The system of claim 4, wherein the secure device comprises a self-
2 contained, portable unit.

9. A device according to claim 1, further comprising dimensions
2 approximately the size of a credit card.

10. A device for conducting secure online payment transactions, the device
2 comprising:

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at least one wing movably attached to the body whereby said wing can be moved

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A device according to claim 16, further comprising:

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at least one wing movably attached to the body whereby said wing can be moved

4 to decrease the overall surface area of the device.

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